



AUSTRALIAN
EQUESTRIAN
TEAM

EA HIGH PERFORMANCE

AACHEN CHIO – NATIONS CUP EVENTING TEAM

Selection Guidelines 2025

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1. PURPOSE

To select four (4) athlete/horse combinations who are able to achieve the best possible result at the 2025 CHIO Aachen in the Nations Cup Eventing competition.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Athlete and horse combinations who have achieved the relevant FEI qualifications to compete at CCIO4*-S level may request to be considered for team selection, in addition to achieving the OC's **additional qualification requirement** of achieving one minimum eligibility result (not necessarily as a combination) from a CCI4*-S competition within the last 12 months of the nominated entry date (02/06/2025).

3. PROCESS OF SELECTION

Subject to the eligibility requirements and any additional EA/FEI/OC qualification/entry requirements, the process of selection will follow the steps outlined below.

3.1 Expressions of interest

Expressions of interest will be sought from eligible combinations, with submissions due no later than 5pm Wednesday 14th May 2025.

3.2 Selection

On or before 19th of May 2025, the NESP will select a team of four (4) athlete/horse combinations to be submitted as the 'Definite Entries'. One (1) athlete/horse combination will be named as a non-travelling reserve. Athletes will be notified of final selection via email.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA:

The Selection Panel will select four (4) eligible Athletes as part of a combination who, in the opinion of the NESP, in its absolute discretion:

- a) will be most likely to achieve the highest competitive results at CHIO Aachen; and
- b) are, and will remain until the conclusion of CHIO Aachen, positive ambassadors for the sport and Equestrian Australia.

For the purpose of assessing Combinations against the above requirements, the NESP will consider the following competition, objective and discretionary factors in its sole and absolute discretion.

4.1 Competition Factors

- (i) Results achieved by the combination at international competitions at CCI4*-S, CCI4*-L and CCI5*-L levels and/or national competitions at CCN4*-S during 2023, 2024 and 2025;
- (ii) Results achieved by the Combination at CCI4*-L and CCI5*-L level prior to 2023 may be considered to demonstrate the experience of the Combination;

4.2 Objective Factors

- (i) The final score (across all three phases of competition) of the Combination at the competitions set out in clause 4.1;
- (ii) The scores achieved by the combination at the Combination in each individual phase

of the competitions set out in clause 4.1;

- (iii) The final placing of the combination at the competitions set out in clause 4.1. For avoidance of doubt, the final placing of each Combination at such competitions will not be determinative for the purpose of nomination; and
- (iv) Data and analysis provided by external providers including (but not limited to) the Australian Institute of Sport and EquiRatings.

4.3 Discretionary Factors

Specific:

- (i) The performance of each Combination at the competitions set out in the clause 4.1 in relation to the quality and number of the competitors at each competition;
- (ii) The technical features of each competition set out in clause 4.1 including but not limited to:
 - a) Dressage judging (including the breakdown of scores across multiple judges);
 - b) Cross-country fences and terrain;
 - c) The quality of riding by an athlete;
 - d) The general conditions under which the Combination performed, such as weather, surface and footing; and
 - e) The relative difficulty of the Show Jumping

Generic:

- (i) The suitability of the combination for the expected conditions at Aachen
- (ii) The ability and experience of the combination to compete successfully at high level international competition during the period outlined in clause 4.1(ii)(iii). The NESP may consider any, all or none of the following factors in its absolute discretion:
 - a) The demonstrated experience and /or success of the combination in Team competitions at CCI4*-S, CCI4*-L and CCI5*-L level;
 - b) The ability, or potential ability, of the Horse and/or Athlete in the combination to perform under the stress and pressure of the CHIO Aachen;
 - c) The ability of the Athlete to prepare their horse to be in peak condition for Chio Aachen;
 - d) The ability for the athlete to contribute toward an effective team environment; and
 - e) The combinations consistency of performances outlined in clause 4.1(ii)(iii).
- (iii) The ability to uphold the values of sportsmanship (including positive representation of the team and the sport at all times with reference to the EA HP LA 2028 strategy, and in line with Australia's 2032+ Win well strategy), will be highly regarded. This includes demonstrating respect for fellow team members, team staff, other competitors, officials, and the competition environment, and complying with all integrity and horse welfare requirement as guided by EA/FEI.

For avoidance of doubt, the NESP has the discretion to place greater or lesser emphasis on any one or more of the competition, Objective or Discretionary Factors as outlined above.